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THE QUAKER MEDICINE SHOW

How Smooth Grafters Work the Un-suspecting Public.

BRAZENNESS CHIEF QUALIFICATION.

Who They Really Are.—How They Lay Themselves Liable for Prosecution

In last week's issue of this paper we published an account of one of the free shows that are being given throughout southern Utah by the Quaker medicine vendors, setting out the facts just as we found them, and almost without comment. Editorially we called attention to the improbability of such a man as the Quaker represented himself to be, "Hawking about from town to town in this sparsely settled district."

At that time the medicine show had just opened up for a ten days' engagement in Cedar City, and when the article came to the notice of the "spieler" he waxed exceedingly wroth and proceeded to recite the little stereotyped piece he had prepared before starting on his campaign, for the benefit of local papers that dared to criticize or state the facts connected with the aggregation.

In working out the details of the campaign, the local press was a factor with which he would in all probability be to reckon, he surmised, (or he have discovered the fact from his experience, for he is evidently an old hand at the faking business.) "I'd probably reasoned thus: 'My many newspapers are usually less defective, typographically, than if they say many things I will be a new or my little game, and then they will be up to ridicule. That will be the end of the matter for such occasions.' When this paper published an account of his performance, giving him nearly two columns of advertising matter for which he was not asked to pay one cent, he at once concluded that he had been attacked, and the following evening proceeded to speak his little piece. To be sure he found the paper well printed the article as well written as the ordinary news item in the daily press, and typographically correct; but he had only the one spiel prepared, so he proceeded to deliver himself of it, and from all accounts elicited considerable applause from a lot of empty headed persons, principally children, who enjoyed the assault for the same reason that people enjoy seeing a dog fight; there was somebody being assailed, and they giggled and clapped their hands. Had the audience been a representative one with sufficient sense to appreciate a service when it was rendered to them, the windy gentleman would have been greeted with hisses instead of applause. But since the ball has been opened, we will endeavor to acquaint the public as far as possible of the standing and tactics of the nomads, and leave the persons who have been hoodwinked into paying for their remedies to decide whether they have been deceived by the glib tongue of the enchanter, or not.

WHO THEY ARE.

The aggregation composed of seven persons in all. There is Franz C. A. Goerss, the windy individual, who represents himself to be a graduate of nearly half a dozen medical colleges, including one at Hiedelberg, Germany, and who, from his talk, you would suppose to be the "whole show," but who in reality would be liable for prosecution if he dared to write a prescription on your local druggist, hand you a professional card on which his name was followed by the letters "M. D.," or publicly represent himself to be a practicing physician, which he did each evening of the show; Dr. D. A. Sykes, who does the office prescribing, and under whose license to practice medicine the entire aggregation takes cover; four performers, two of whom are colored men and one a colored woman; and a lady, who is presumably the wife of the proprietor.

Of Franz C. A. Goerss comparatively little is known. He claims to have been in Utah since 1900, but holds no license to practice medicine in this state. Under these circumstances, it is not probable that he is a doctor at all. If he were what he represented himself to be, he would certainly have passed the board of medical examiners before he had been in Utah four years. The diplomas and state licenses which he exhibits from the stage are probably counterfeits, for the use of which he could be sent to state's prison for the remainder of his days if anyone was interested enough to follow up the case. He is liable for prosecution for every time he publicly made the statement that he was a doctor, and solicited office practice. He is, in short, a clever bilk, who depends upon his immaculate gull and brazenness to carry him through. His chief qualifications are his seductive tongue and his ability to pull teeth. He has drawn as many as forty during a single evening.

Dr. D. A. Sykes has been in Utah since 1894; how much longer we have failed to learn. He was granted a license by the state board of medical examiners Oct. 8, 1895. When a representative of this paper called up Dr. Fisher, secretary of the state board, by phone, he at first said that he knew of no such men as either Sykes or Goerss in the medical profession. Several hours later, on careful thought, he did remember that a license was issued a number of years since to a man named Sykes. The fact that it took the secretary of the board all one day to fish his name from the cobwebs of his brain, proves that he has not been especially eminent in Utah in the medical profession. The secretary believed that he had practiced in Silver City, and had been about Salt Lake some little.

Dr. J. A. Hensel of Silver City was called up and asked concerning Sykes. He stated that he had not practiced in Silver City, but was located for a time at Mercur. Had known him, he said, but when asked what he knew about him, he replied that he did not amount to anything; that he believed he practiced as a "homeopath." He has been in Utah long enough that someone should have known something of his wonderful achievements if he had any. While the company was in St. George they had this license of Sykes' recorded in the office of the county recorder; but while in Cedar they neglected to take this precaution, so that every time Dr. Sykes prescribed for any person at his office and accepted of a fee for the same, he laid himself open to prosecution. The state law provides that before a doctor can go from one county to another and practice medicine, he shall record his license in such county.

HOW THEY MAKE MONEY.

A free minstrel show carried with the company draws and holds the crowd. People are attracted to the show by the beating of a tin pan and the announcement through a speaking trumpet that "there will be a free show tonight," and reference to the place where it will be held.

When the crowd has fairly gathered the Quaker (?) makes an appeal to the religious prejudices of the people, gains their sympathies, recounts his wonderful attainments and offers some of the Quaker medicines for sale. With each package a card is given that entitles the holder to a free examination. The wordy gentleman makes the most astounding professions, among others that they diagnose disease and place their finger upon the spot where the pain is, without asking a question. The inference all the way through is that he is the man; but when the holder of the card applies for examination, he is shown into the presence of the dark complexioned gentleman, who is Dr. Sykes, and who becomes wroth when you ask him to locate your trouble without asking questions. However, he usually informs the subject that he has some serious ailment and offers to furnish medicine for treatment at from \$10 up, according to the presumed status of the patient's pocketbook. It is in this way that the concern makes the principal part of its money, and many are the silly people who apply and pay for treatment.

For this purpose Sykes has dis-

(Continued on 4th page.)

STATE NEWS.

Michael Hennessy, a mining prospector, was torn to pieces last Saturday by the explosion of a shot in the tunnel of the Sevier mine.

The post-office at Helper, Carbon county, was robbed again a few nights ago. Several dollars worth of stamps and a few dollars in silver was taken.

Dr. H. J. Faust, well known in Salt Lake City, where he was prominent in business circles years ago, died in Los Angeles, California, last Saturday.

Don Connelly, a laborer recently from Park City, was found dead in a box car on the San Pedro at Las Vegas. Death resulted from hemorrhage of the lungs.

Judge Marionaux will become the partner of Judge Powers, in the place of D. N. Straup, who will take his place on the supreme bench with the beginning of the new year.

Christian Christiansen of Richfield, brother of the state treasurer elect, died at this city last week from an attack of heart disease, brought on by the excitement incident to an attempt to stop a runaway cow.

The People's Mercantile store was broken into one night last week, at Coalville, and about ten dollars' worth of merchandise consisting of shoes, under clothing, etc., and one dollar and fifty cents in cash taken.

A ledge of gold-bearing ore over a mile long was recently discovered in the Meadow Valley Wash by a couple of miners from Arizona. Assays of the rock range from \$5 to \$17 per ton. Mike Smith and James Mann are the lucky finders.

Last Saturday President John R. Winder celebrated his eighty-third birthday. He is said to be one of the best preserved and healthiest men on hand.

An electric light plant has been installed in Salina by a private company at a cost of about twelve thousand dollars for machinery that is run by water power. It is the intention of the town to buy the plant if it can see its way clear to do so.

The contention in relation to the district judgeship in the seventh district, is at length settled, as far as the issuing of the certificate of election is concerned, and Erickson is the man to whom it has been issued. It is said that Livingston intends to contest.

The smallpox situation has greatly improved at Richfield within the past week or two, according to the Reaper published at that place, and the people there are hopeful that with the enforcement of proper quarantine regulations the epidemic will soon be under control.

R. A. Lowe of Austin, Sevier county, finds the production of honey a profitable industry. From 40 stands or hives he has taken this year 13,000 lbs. of honey, all of which is pronounced first class by eastern purchasers. He is disposing of a large amount to a Denver firm.

John C. Chadwick, a highly respected citizen of north Ogden, while unloading a horse-power recently, was crushed by the machinery onto a harrow that lay with the teeth pointing upwards. The teeth pierced his body in several places. He was taken to the hospital later to undergo an operation.

Peter Ratey, an aged resident of Mariot, Weber county, was thrown from his buggy into the Ogden River last week, and if he had not been rescued, would have been drowned. The accident was caused by the horse taking fright and backing into the deep waters of the stream. The horse was drowned.

W. R. Jones, superintendent of the Salt Lake county infirmary, has brought suit against the Tribune for libel, and asks for damages in the sum of \$125,000. The libel is alleged to have been committed during the recent campaign, and to consist in the charge by the Tribune that Jones had gotten money on false statements.

William Brown, a resident of West Weber, was thrown out of his wagon recently while crossing the railroad track on 24th street, Salt Lake, by a switch engine striking the rear of his wagon. Brown had not noticed the approach of the engine until he got this forcible intimation. His collar bone was broken and he was otherwise badly shaken up.

A young fellow named James Miller was caught recently in Ogden endeavoring to dispose of a suit of clothes which he was charged with having stolen from a guest of the Central Hotel. He claimed to have bought the suit in Chicago, but could not explain how it happened that the pocket knife and theatre tickets belonging to the claimant were in the pockets of the clothing.

White engaged in hauling gravel from the gravel beds on Thirteenth East street, Salt Lake City, last Saturday, Erastus Tuckett was buried beneath eighteen inches of sand and rocks, by the caving of the bank. Some parties who witnessed the accident lost no time in exhuming the unfortunate man who, though severely bruised, is in a fair way to recover.

A farmer's institute was held in Beaver last week at which Professors Widtsoe and Clark were present and addressed the assembled agriculturists, explaining many important and interesting matters pertaining to their interests. Prof. Widtsoe said that there are thousands of acres of land in Beaver county from which crops can be produced without irrigation.

John Nicholson, George Reynolds, Bishop Robert Morris, George H. Brimhall and Prof. Hickman are among the witnesses recently subpoenaed to Washington to give evidence in the Smoot, or rather the church, investigation, at Washington, D. C., before the Senate committee. Apologies Grant, Cowley and Taylor are also wanted, but are outside of the jurisdiction of the United States.

Provo city is preparing to install a Carnegie library. A petition was recently presented to the city council of that city bearing the signatures of four hundred and twenty taxpayers, foremost among whom was the name of Reed Smoot, asking their body to levy a tax under the provisions of the laws of the state for maintaining a free library, and alleging that the petitioners believed that if this was done ten thousand dollars could be gotten from Mr. Carnegie.

Two hobos stole a roll of bedding from a deaf and dumb transient at American Fork last week. The man left his bedding in a freight car while he went down town to get his dinner, and upon returning saw the two thieves making off with his property. He followed, but on getting near them he was ordered back and threatened with violence. By the time he had summoned the marshal the thieves were out of sight.

A pair of horse-thieves were neatly caught a few days since by the sheriff of Emery county, assisted by the gentleman who will succeed him on the first day of January next. The men had each secured a horse and saddle and were intending to go to the mines at Goldfield, Nevada, but were overtaken, one at Marysville and the other at Mouree. One has confessed, but the other still protests his innocence. In default of \$500 bonds they were committed to jail at Castledale, Emery county.

A civil service examination will be held in Salt Lake City on the 28th of this month, for the purpose of selecting one hundred and forty teachers eligible to serve the government schools in the Philippine islands, who must all be college graduates, twenty of them to be graduates of polytechnic schools and twenty of agricultural schools. The salary paid to such graduates is one thousand, two hundred dollars per annum. There is also a chance for sixty graduates from normal schools, whose salary, when appointed, will be one thousand dollars per annum. The appointments will be made early in the spring, and arrangements made to have the teachers reach the islands about the first of June.

(Continued on last page.)

A MATTER OF HEALTH

ROYAL



BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure
HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

INOCULATING BARREN LANDS

Wonderful Results Being Obtained by
the New Process.

THE HISTORY OF ITS DISCOVERY

Bacteria Sufficient to Inoculate Three
and One-Half Acres for 4 cts.—
Yield Increased 300 per cent

We have long heard of the inoculation of the human body as a preventive measure against certain diseases, but the idea of inoculating sterile soil with the object of making it fertile is new and so startling as to be almost incredible. This process, however, is precisely what is being carried on at the present time in various parts of the world, and with eminently satisfactory results.

One of the most important elements of plant food is nitrogen, which is absorbed by plants through their roots. Since this food has to be taken from the soil it can easily be understood why land kept under steady cultivation in time becomes exhausted.

Centuries ago, however, it was discovered that certain plants tend to enrich the soil. Farmers found that after a crop of legumes,—peas, beans, alfalfa, clover,—had been raised on a certain piece of ground, that ground the following year gave a heavier yield of wheat; and that by a rotation of crops, the impoverishment of land through constant cultivation could be partly offset. Just why a crop of peas, beans or lucerne raised one year should strengthen the ground for the next, was not understood until recently, when science discovered that leguminous plants take their supply of nitrogen from the air, and put into the soil the surplus they do not need for their own use; and further, that the gathering in process is accomplished by means of round bulbs or nodules which grow at the roots of leguminous plants. Farmers had always noticed these nodules, but thought they were caused by disease, until scientists took the matter in hand and by observation proved that they grow in greatest abundance on flourishing plants, while those which are spindling are almost without nodules. Microscopic examination revealed the fact that each bulb is composed of millions of bacteria, all busily engaged in taking nitrogen from the air, and giving it to the plant. Further investigation showed, also, that these organisms grow in the soil, and when they are most abundant, plants are the thriftiest.

"Now," said Prof. Noble, a German botanist who had been working out these discoveries, "why could not these nitrogen-gathering bacteria be raised artificially, inoculated into seed or soil, and produce the same enriching results that these natural factories at the roots of leguminous plants are doing?"

With great pains Prof. Noble succeeded in isolating the bacteria found in the nodule, and raised nitrogen-fed colonies of them. He put them up in a liquid medium, and placing it on the market, advertised a preparation that would make legumes

(Continued on last page.)